

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Patent No.
PCT/GB 03/04572

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B65G21/02		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B65G		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00 47499 A (DOLAN REX H) 17 August 2000 (2000-08-17) page 5, line 1 - line 8; figure 2 page 8, line 9 - line 11 ---	1-3,6
X	US 6 170 645 B1 (MITCHELL CHARLES L) 9 January 2001 (2001-01-09) column 7, line 12 - line 32; figures 11-13 column 8, line 4 - line 9 ---	1,6
Y		5,7,8
Y	US 3 944 054 A (ENSINGER JAMES L) 16 March 1976 (1976-03-16) column 3, line 16 - line 19; figure 9 ---	5,7,8
X	GB 872 329 A (BHS BAYERISCHE BERG) 5 July 1961 (1961-07-05) page 2, line 17 - line 20; figure 2 ---	1,2
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art *&* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 27 January 2004		Date of mailing of the international search report 03/02/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Schneider, M

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